

AMENDMENTS IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 11, with the following:

Also attaching to PCI local bus **20** are a hard disk drive **5**, a communications ~~interface~~ adapter **15**, an expansion bus bridge **29**, and a flash memory utility **7**. Communications ~~interface~~ adapter **15** connects personal computer system **10** to a network **17**. Expansion bus bridge **29**, such as a PCI-to-industry standard architecture (ISA) bus bridge, may be utilized for coupling ISA bus **25** to PCI local bus **20**. As shown, a keyboard **26** and a mouse **28** are attached to ISA bus **25** for performing certain basic I/O functions. A graphics adapter **21** is also attached to PCI local bus **20** for controlling visual output through display monitor **22**.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 19, with the following:

In the depicted embodiment, the functionality provided by hardware security device **4** defines a “trusted subsystem” within computer system **10** with which one or more data processing systems within network **17** may communicate sensitive data via communications ~~interface~~ adapter **15**. One such context in which the need for hardware data security arises is in the development and improvement of security key technologies. As part of the security management employed by credit card companies, for example, public/private security key encryption systems are often utilized. In general terms, public/private key technology is utilized for mutual user authentication (via digital signatures, for example) between otherwise unfamiliar parties. Public/private key encryption allows a vendor (a credit card company, for example) to remotely install a private key into a designated user system module in a manner that the vendor is assured that any information intended for the private use of the user is secure.